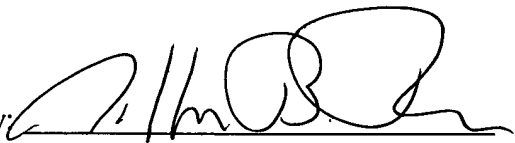


**REMARKS**

Claims 1-43 are pending in this application. Claims 1-43 have been amended to conform these claims to claims 1-43 of U.S. Patent No. 6,683,423, for which an interference is requested herewith. No claims have been canceled. Favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
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